## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 03595 181841Z ACTION EB-08

R 181225Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3064 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY PARIS AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY ROME

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DEPT PASS EXIM, TREASURY, COMMERCE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, EAID, CG

SUBJ: GOZ REITERATES INTENTION TO SEEK ADDITIONAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

RELIEF

REF: KINSHASA 3407

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. EDITORIAL IN APRIL 16 SALONGO PICKS UP THEME, FIRST ARTICULATED IN FINANCE MINISTER BOFOSSO'S PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL), THAT GOZ MUST SEEK ADDITIONAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS RELIEF. EDITORIAL NOTES THAT GOZ INTENDS TO PURSUE STABILIZATION PROGRAM NOTWITHSTANDING "NEW POLITICAL PROBLEMS," BUT ADDS THAT IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO SEEK FROM CREDITORS "CERTAIN ARRANGEMENTS (AMANAGEMENTS), ESPECIALLY CONCERNING MORATORIUMS." UNDER PRESENT CONDITIONS, THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EDITORIAL CONCLUDES, ZAIRE CAN ONLY APPEAL TO THE CONSCIENCES OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES TO OBTAIN "SPECIAL ASSISTANCE." END UNCLASSIFIED BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

2. COMMENT: SALONGO EDITORIAL, A MEDIUM OFTEN USED FOR EX-PRESSIONS OF OFFICIAL GOZ POLICY, CONFIRMS BOFOSSO HINT THAT GOZ WILL SEEK 1977 PARIS CLUB RESCHEDULING BEYOND THE TERMS AGREED TO FOR SECOND SEMESTER 1976. WE EXPECT THAT ZAIRIANS' OPITIMAL OBJECTIVE WILL BE TO EXTEND RESCHEDULING TO INCLUDE ALL PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST MATURITIES FALLING DUE IN 1977. THE ZAIRIANS MAY ALSO TRY TO BARGAIN FOR SUBSTANTIALLY LOWER INTEREST RATES ON CONSOLIDATED DEBTS. THE BELGIAN EMBASSY, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS BEEN ADVISED INFORMALLY THAT THE 7 PERCENT INTEREST RATE AGREED TO LAST YEAR IN TOO HIGH AND THAT THE 1977 CONSOLIDATION SHOULD BE AT AN INTEREST

RATE IN THE RANGE OF 3-4 PERCENT. WHILE BOTH WE AND THE BELGIANS ARE SKEPTICAL OF THE GOZ'S CHANCES OF OBTAINING ALL IT APPEARS TO BE ASKING FOR, WE BOTH AGREE THAT THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT THE GOZ INTENDS TO BARGAIN FOR MUCH MORE FAVORABLE DEAL. SEPTEL WILL FOLLOW CONTAINING OUR VIEWS CONCERNING ZAIRE'S NEEDS FOR ADDITIONAL DEBT RELIEF.

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## Message Attributes

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Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

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Subject: GOZ REITERATES INTENTION TO SEEK ADDITIONAL BALANCE OF PAYMENTS RELIEF

TAGS: ECON, EAID, CG

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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